

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS section on pages 1 and 2 of the specification as follows:

This application claims ~~priority to~~ the benefit of the following provisional applications:

U.S. Patent Serial No. 60/182,470, entitled "Intelligent Silence Suppression," filed February 15, 2000, by Gummalla et al., ~~(still pending)~~ (incorporated by reference in its entirety herein).

U.S. Patent Serial No. 60/247,188 ~~(Attorney Docket No. CPH 40892 (BP 1560))~~, entitled "A Local Scheduling Mechanism for Cable Modems," filed November 9, 2000, by Sala et al., ~~(still pending)~~ (incorporated by reference in its entirety herein).

U.S. Patent Serial No. 60/254,415 ~~(Attorney Docket No. CPH 40892 (BP 1560-1))~~, entitled "A Local Scheduling Mechanism for Cable Modems," filed December 8, 2000, by Sala et al., ~~(still pending)~~ (incorporated by reference in its entirety herein).

U.S. Patent Serial No. 60/262,201 ~~(Attorney Docket No. CPH 41359 (BP 1702))~~, entitled "Voice Scheduling Algorithms," filed January 17, 2001, by Sala et al., ~~(still pending)~~ (incorporated by reference in its entirety herein).

U.S. Patent Serial No. 60/262,203 ~~(Attorney Docket No. CPH 41362 (BP 1705))~~, entitled "Concatenation of Requests at CMTS," filed January 17, 2001, by Sala et al., ~~(still pending)~~ (incorporated by reference in its entirety herein).

This application ~~claims priority to~~ is a continuation-in-part of the following non-provisional application:

U.S. Patent Serial No. 09/427,792, entitled "System and Method for Multiplexing Data from Multiple Sources," filed October 27, 1999, by Limb et al., ~~(still pending)~~ now U.S. Patent No. 6,804,251, issued October 12, 2004 (incorporated by reference in its entirety herein).

This application is related to the following non-provisional applications, all having the same filing date as the present application:

“Method, System and Computer Program Product for Scheduling Upstream Communications”, U.S. Patent Serial No. ~~TBD~~ 09/783,404, filed February 15, 2001 (~~Attorney Docket No. 1875.0440002~~, by Gummalla et al. (incorporated by reference in its entirety herein).

~~“System and Method to Support Constant Bit Rate Services in a Shared Communication System Voice Architecture For Transmission Over A Shared, Contention Based Medium,”~~ U.S. Patent Serial No. ~~TBD~~ 09/785,020, filed February 15, 2001, (~~Attorney Docket No. 40672/LTR/B600~~) by Gummalla et al. (incorporated by reference in its entirety herein).

“System and Method for Combining Requests for Data Bandwidth by a Data Provider for Transmission of Data Over an Asynchronous Communication Medium,” U.S. Patent Serial No. ~~TBD~~ 09/783,311, filed February 15, 2001, (~~Attorney Docket No. 1875.0450001~~) by Gummalla et al., (incorporated by reference in its entirety herein).

“Cable Modem System and Method for Specialized Data Transfer,” U.S. Patent Serial No. ~~TBD~~ 09/783,403, filed February 15, 2001, (~~Attorney Docket No. 1875.0460001~~) by Bunn et al., (incorporated by reference in its entirety herein).

Also, please amend paragraph [0058] on page 15 of the specification as follows:

An algorithm or method used by the present invention to determine the number of contention mini-slots needed for voice priority requires the following defined notation:

T = periodicity of contention mini-slots in seconds;

λ = mean silence duration in seconds;

N = number of calls in silent state; and

Pc = probability of ~~collusion~~ collision having N number of calls in silent state.